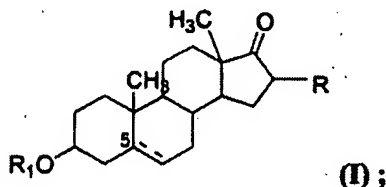


**Amendments to the Claims:**

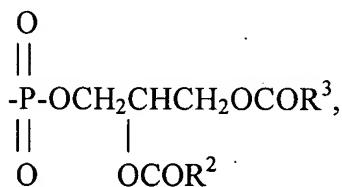
160. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising a carrier and an amount of an active agent effective for ~~prophylaxis or~~ treatment of bronchoconstriction, lung inflammation, lung allergy, or asthma selected from dehydroepiandrosterone, or pharmaceutically or veterinarily acceptable salts thereof, the dehydroepiandrosterone having the chemical formula



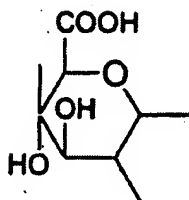
wherein the broken line represents a single or double bond; R is hydrogen or halogen; the H at position 5 is present in the alpha or beta configuration or the compound of chemical formula I comprises a racemic mixture of both configurations; and R<sub>1</sub> is hydrogen or SO<sub>2</sub>OM, wherein Mis H, Na sulfite -SO<sub>2</sub>O-CH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub>OCOR<sup>3</sup>;



or phosphatide



wherein R<sup>2</sup> or R<sup>3</sup>, which are the same or different, is straight or branched (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>) alkyl, or glucuronide



wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises particles of ~~respirable size~~ less than about 5 μm in size.

161. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 160, wherein said active agent is dehydroepiandrosteronesulfate.

162. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 160, which is an inhalable or nasal formulation.

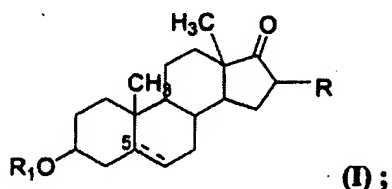
163. (Cancelled) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 162, wherein said particles are about 0.5  $\mu\text{m}$  to about 10  $\mu\text{m}$  in size, or 10  $\mu\text{m}$  to 500  $\mu\text{m}$  in size.

164. (Cancelled) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 163, wherein said particles are less than about 5  $\mu\text{m}$  in size.

165. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 160, further comprising an amount of ubiquinone (CoQn, wherein n=1 to 12) effective to ~~prevent, counter or~~ reduce adenosine depletion ~~in the subject's tissue~~.

166 - 186. (Cancelled)

187. (New) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising a carrier and an amount of an active agent effective for ~~prophylaxis or~~ treatment of bronchoconstriction, lung inflammation, lung allergy, or asthma selected from dehydroepiandrosterone, or pharmaceutically or veterinarily acceptable salts thereof, the dehydroepiandrosterone having the chemical formula

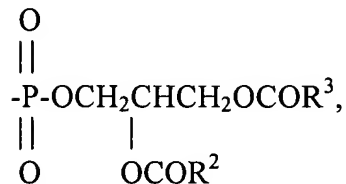


wherein the broken line represents a single or double bond; R is hydrogen or halogen; the H at position 5 is present in the alpha or beta configuration or the compound of chemical formula I

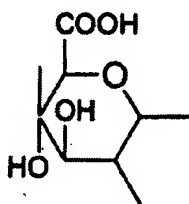
comprises a racemic mixture of both configurations; and  $R_1$  is hydrogen or  $\text{SO}_2\text{OM}$ , wherein Mis H,  
Na sulfite  $-\text{SO}_2\text{O}-\text{CH}_2\text{CHCH}_2\text{OCOR}^3$ ;



or phosphatide



wherein  $R^2$  or  $R^3$ , which are the same or different, is straight or branched ( $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{14}$ ) alkyl, or glucuronide



wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises particles about  $0.5 \mu\text{m}$  to about  $10 \mu\text{m}$  in size or  $10 \mu\text{m}$  to  $500 \mu\text{m}$  in size.

188. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 187, wherein said active agent is dehydroepiandrosteronesulfate.

189. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 187, which is an inhalable or nasal formulation.

190. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 187, further comprising an amount of ubiquinone ( $\text{CoQ}_n$ , wherein  $n=1$  to 12) effective to reduce adenosine depletion in an animal tissue.